



Announcements: A Community Meeting will be held at the Sanders County Fairgrounds Pavilion tonight at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Lolo National Forest, eight miles east of Thompson Falls; one mile north of Highway 200.

Incident Command: The Copper King Fire is being managed under Greg Poncin's Type I Northern Rockies Incident Management Team.

Air Quality Alert: The Montana Department of Environmental Quality issued an air quality alert for Sanders County again today. <http://goo.gl/5G7YQd>

Fire Closure: An area closure is in effect for lands, trails and roads administered by the USDA Forest Service, Montana DNRC, Sanders County and Weyerhaeuser. An area closure map is posted at <http://tinyurl.com/hftr4on>.

Evacuations: *Evacuation notices remain in effect for 45 residences and 130 residences are in pre-evacuation status.* For more information on evacuation status, call (406) 827-3584, extension 3 or visit the Sanders County Sheriff's Facebook page at <http://tinyurl.com/ja3nn8l>.

<u>STATISTICS</u>	
Detected:	July 31, 2016
Cause:	Under Investigation
Current Size:	24,778 acres
As of 10:00 PM August 28, 2016	
Containment:	15%
Structures Lost:	None
Estimated Costs:	\$15 Million
Resources Assigned:	
Type 1 Hand Crews:	6
Type 2 Hand Crews:	12
Camp Crews:	4
Dozers:	12
Engines:	39
Water Tenders:	24
Helicopters:	8
Total Personnel:	780

Yesterday: Firing operations were successful as aerial resources conducted burnout operations along the northern perimeter of the fire yesterday creating a large, visible column of smoke around 6:00 p.m. Hotshot crews worked to construct line along the portions of the southeastern perimeter where the fire remains most active. Some spot fires crossed lines on the southeastern edge in and around the upper Weeksville Creek drainage but were caught early and controlled with aerial resources. Aerial operations were utilized throughout the day on the southwestern flank as fire favorably backed downslope toward Hwy 200. Helicopters dropped a total of 258,000 gallons of water on the fire while heavy air tankers and single engine fixed-wing planes dropped 36,500 gallons of retardant. Crews continued to mop up and patrol the west side of the fire along the Thompson River and ACM Roads.

Today's Weather and Fire Behavior: A high pressure system will move into the area today bringing higher temperatures and drier conditions. Temperatures are expected to reach into the mid-90s. Unstable air conditions could result in increased fire behavior. Winds will be less of a concern today, but isolated thunderstorms may develop later this the afternoon and evening.

Today's Planned Actions: Mop up and patrol work will continue where fire behavior is minimal along the northeastern flank near Little Thompson River and the western perimeter along the ACM road. Aerial firing operations will continue along the northern portion of the fire. Firefighters will also monitor and continue to allow the fire to back down toward Hwy 200 on the southwestern flank. Two hotshot crews along with aerial support will continue to focus efforts in the upper Weeksville Creek drainage to catch spot fires and construct line where fire remains most active. Crews will continue to closely monitor fire behavior in the steep terrain above Munson Creek and respond with aerial support if necessary. Heavy equipment crews will continue building contingency line well outside the eastern perimeter of the fire. Structure protection will focus on homes along the Buffalo Bill Road. While direct line construction is the most desirable, burnout operations may still take place because this method is the most efficient and safe means of controlling fire spread on steep, inaccessible areas.

Flight Restrictions: A Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) remains in effect over this fire. Please check with the FAA or your local flight service station prior to flying in the area of the fire.

Air Operations: **Flying drones over the fire is prohibited.** If drones are detected, air operations will shut down to avoid a potential for mid-air collisions for low-flying aircraft operating over the fire. The aerial resources assigned to the Copper King Fire are available for use both on this incident and for initial attack.

Cooperating Agencies: Lolo National Forest, Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC), Sanders County, Sanders County Sheriff, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

For Copper King Fire information: www.inciweb.nwcg.gov

An interactive map of the fire perimeter is at: <http://goo.gl/xMXLYs>

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